

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 17 as follows:

The figures show various views of a biological fluid collection accessory device 105 removeably coupled to a biological fluid collection container 120. The device 105, which is ~~preferable~~ preferably sterilized before use, comprises an annular attachment ring 110 adapted for attachment to a specimen container 120, the attachment ring having an annular inner side 1430 (FIG. 14) and an outer side 1420 (FIG. 14) and generally circular top and bottom edges. The inner side 1430 of the attachment ring 110 defines a generally circular open center 116 of the attachment ring 110 to permit passage of samples including fluid samples through the attachment ring 110 into the container 120.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 7, line 22 as follows:

As can be seen in FIG. 2, the gripping ridges 130 have an upper end 210 and a lower end 220. The lower ends 220 of the ~~of the~~ gripping ridges 130 are positioned adjacent the bottom edge of the attachment ring 110 while the upper ends 210 of the gripping ridges 130 are positioned towards and spaced apart from the top edge of the attachment ring 110. The upper edges 210 of the gripping ridges 130 are generally lying in a plane substantially parallel to the plane of the top edge of the attachment ring 110.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 12, line 12 as follows:

FIG. 15 through FIG. 28 show a second embodiment of the invention that is substantially similar and operates in a substantially similar fashion to the embodiment described with respect to FIG. 1 through FIG. 14. As such, for the purpose of brevity, the FIGs. 15 – 28 need not be described in detail. The main difference between embodiments is that in the second embodiment, the accessory device 105b, which is capable of being coupled to a container 120b, does not include a rib between the ring 110 and the peripheral wall 320.